(c) whether Government are aware that CRPF jeeps are being misused for bringing the personal staff of high officials in the Home Ministry; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to effect economy in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Instructions have been issued by the Government that consumption of petrol and diesel in Government vehicles including staff cars should be reduced by 20 per cent compared to the consumption during the year 1989-90.

(b) The Staff Car Rules which regulate the use of staff cars, have the necessary provisions to ensure use of official vehicles for bonafide purpose. Instructions have recently been reiterated to take suitable steps against misuse of Government vehicles/staff cars.

(c) No such instance has come to notice of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(d) Does not arise.

Profits Earned by Nationalised Banks

1063. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the profit earned by the nationalised banks in the last financial year; and

(b) what steps are being taken to improve the performance of these banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The published profits of 19 out of the 20 nationalised banks who have finalised their accounts for the year 1989-90, aggregate to Rs. 239.73 crores.

(b) Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have taken series of measures to improve the performance and profitability of the public sector banks. These include augmentation of their capital, higher coupon rates on Government Securities, higher return on cash balances maintained with RBI. Banks have been advised by RBI to draw up action plans with a view to improving their operational efficiency. Banks have also been exhorted to take specific measures to maintain their viability and profitability by means of effective business planning and development. Besides, banks have taken certain measures for enhancing productivity and for effecting economy in expenditure etc.

Resource Transfers by Finance Commissions to Kerala

1064. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that while the Seventh Finance Commission had allocated to Kerala 3.70 per cent of the total resource transfer, the Eighth Finance Commission reduced it to 3.27 per cent and the the Ninth Finance Commission has further reduced it to 301 per cent thereby handing out a raw deal to the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, what corrective steps are being taken in this regard;

(c) whether his Ministry has received any memorandum from Kerala in this connection; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) In percentage terms, the share of Kerala in the total resource transfer was 3.70 per cent, 3.27 per cent and 3.25 per cent respectively under the recommendations of the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Finance Commissions. The

shares of the States including Kerala had been determined by the Finance Commissions in accordance with the priniciples adopted by them.

(b) The recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission for 1990—95 have already been accepted by the Government.

(c) and (d) The State Government has referred to the over all revenue deficit of Rs. 219.46 crores left uncovered by the Commission for 1990-91 and requested for overdraft facility of Rs. 220 crores for the current year to meet the revenue expenditure needs of the State and a long term loan of Rs. 100 crores. These requests of the State Government are under consideration and final decisions are expected to be taken soon.

Loss to Exchequer Due to Reduction in Customs Duty

1065. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of B.J.P. that on account of liberalised reduction in customs duty there will be a loss to the tune of Rs. 12000 crores to the exchequer during the next six years; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to arrest the fall in customs duty collection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The Government is not aware of any liberalised of BJP that on account of liberalised reduction in customs duty there will be a loss to the tune of Rs. 12,000 crores to the exchequer during the next six years.

(b) Does not arise.

Quantum of Loans waived

1066. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans so far waived under the loan waiver scheme, State-wise; and

(b) the number of farmers benefited thereby?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Implementation of the agricultural Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 is at different stage of implementation in various States. Till the banks submit the claim statements, it would not be possible to indicate any estimates State-wise about the number of farmers who are likely to be benefited by the scheme. Similarly, the amount of money involved in the debt relief scheme can be worked out only after banks perpare the list of beneficiaries eligible for relief under the Scheme.

Financial Assistance to States for Writing off Agricultural Loans

1067. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government have approached the centre for financial help for writing off the agricultural loans; and

(b) if so, the details of the demand and the state-wise financial help proposed to be provided to the State Governments to meet their financial burden?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Government of India have formulated a scheme known as 'Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990' for providing debt relief to farmers, landless cultivators, artisans and weavers upto Rs. 10,000/- by public sector banks and regional rural banks